

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT Condition of the Main Power Stations

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1. The general capacity of the main power stations of the Russian Zone is given below:

Bitterfeld	216 million watts
Böhlen	191 " "
Espenhain	279 " "
Zschornowitz	180 " "
Harbke	147.5 " "
Hirschfelde	184.4 " "
Lauta	85 " "
Schkopau	193 " "
Leuna	97 " "
Tröglitz	70 " "

2. Only the Espenhain, Schkopau and Tröglitz power stations can be described as modern, up-to-date plants. The general condition of these three, as well as Böhlen, Harbke, Bitterfeld and Leuna, can be considered satisfactory.
3. The power stations at Zschornowitz, Hirschfelde and Lauta are out-of-date and in poor condition, since all their modern equipment was dismantled in 1945. Spare parts for turbines, boilers and steam pipes are in very short supply and those which are being supplied are generally of inferior quality.

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-2-

4. SAG's are now also beginning to be affected. With little prospect of obtaining high-grade spare parts, including new insulation of generators and large transformer coils, and without the West-Berlin workshops of the AEG and SSW plants, no improvement may be expected during 1950 - 51.
5. The Lauta power station is in the worst condition of all. Only one of the five turbine sets is in a reasonably satisfactory condition, but this set also lacks new condenser pipes. The boilers of this power station are in great need of repair; some of them are already unsafe. The cooling towers are rotting and the 5/100 kV transformers are in a poor state of insulation.
6. In order to replace and repair power stations now out-of-date and in a poor condition and to meet the additional electricity requirements of the next few years, a sum of at least one billion DM will be required. This amount would also cover the costs of extending the high-tension network of the Russian Zone. About 50 - 60 percent of this sum would be required in the form of foreign currency. These figures were prepared in November 1949 by H.A. Energie but barely 10 percent of this sum has so far been made available and no orders for any heavy equipment have yet been placed

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Comment 1: The figures given in paragraph 1 are maximum capacities and are reportedly not always attained. At the moment for instance (August 1950), Lauta is producing only 70 million watts.

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Comment 2: little will be done to finance repairs until a serious breakdown takes place.

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